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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 AID-05 MCE-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01
EB-08 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00
ICAE-00 INRE-00 /089 W
----------094876 161002Z /20
O R 160818Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2322
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
USMISSION USNATO
USNMR SHAPE
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES
CINCEUR
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 4518

LODON FOR AMBASSADOR SPIERS AND EUR/SE DIRECTOR EWING

E.O. 11652 GDS
TAGS: PEPR, MASS, TU
SUBJ: POSSIBLE AMENDMENT OF SECURITY ASSISTANCE LEGISLATION FOR TURKEY

REF: ANKAR 4294 (DTG 071200Z JUN 78)(NOTAL)

1. DURING CALL AT FOREIGN MINISTRY AFTERNOON JUNE 15, DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL FOR INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AFFIARS, AMBASSADOR HAMIT BATU, TOLD CHARGE THAT MINISTRY HAD RECEIVED TEXT OF PROPOSED MCGOVERN AMENDMENT TO SECURITY ASSISTANCE LEGISLATION FOR TURKEY (REFTEL. BATU MADE TWO POINTS DURING ENSUING DISCUSSION: (A) FROM GOT'S POINT OF VIEW, ANY AMENDMENT TO SECURITY ASSISTANCE LEGISLATION OTHER THAN SIMPLE
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REPEAL OF ARMS EMBARGO WAS UNDESIRABLE, AND (B) CERTAIN FEATURES OF MCGOVERN AMENDMENT WERE "MOST UNUSUAL" AND WOULD LEAD TO "INTERNATIONALIZATION" OF THE CYPRUS QUESTION; IN PARTICULAR THE APPROPRIATENESS OF UNSYG WALDHEIM GIVING REGULAR REPORTS ON CYPRUS TO THE PRESIDENT FOR SUBSEQUENT TRANSMISSION TO CONGRESS WAS QUESTIONABLE. BATU ALSO SAID THAT THE GOT HOPED THE BINGHAM AMENDMENT IN THE HIRC VERSION OF THE LEGISLATION

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WOULD BE DROPPED.

2. CHARGE COMMENTED THAT WE HAD SEEN LOCAL NEWSPAPER REPORT OF POSSIBLE MCGOVERN AMENDMENT (REFTEL), BUT HAD NOT YET RECEIVED INFORMATION ABOUT IT IN RESPONSE TO OUR QUERY. CHARGE ADDED THAT, BASED ON OUR INFORMATION FROM WASHINGTON, THE ADMINISTRATION CERTAINLY WAS NOT SEEKING A COMPROMISE ON THE SECURITY ASSISTANCE LEGISLATION; IT WAS SEEKING A CLEAR-CUT REMOVAL OF THE ARMS EMBARGO. BATU SAID THAT HE HOPED THIS WAS THE CASE AND, REFERRING TO THE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT ON THE EMBARGO AT HIS JULY 14 PRESS CONFERENCE, ADDED THAT HE WAS "VERY IMPRESSED" BY THE STAND ON THE ARMS EMBARGO REPEAL THAT THE ADMINISTRATION HAD TAKEN. CONCLUDING THE DISCUSSION, CHARGE WAS GIVEN TEXT OF MCGOVERN AMENDMENT AS TRANSMITTED BY TURKISH EMBASSY, WASHINGTON.

3. COMMENT AND ACTION REQUESTED: BATU DID NOT SEEM VERY STEAMED UP ABOUT THE ISSUE, BUT THERE IS CLEARLY SOME APPREHENSION HERE THAT IN A WELL-MEANING EFFORT TO FIND A COMPROMISE, THE SALUTORY POLITICAL EFFECT OF A CLEAR CUT LIFTING OF THE EMBARGO COULD BE LOST. WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING THE DEPARTMENT'S VIEWS ON THE SUBSTANCE OF THE MCGOVERN AMENDMENT AND ANY COMMENTS ON IT THAT WE COULD GIVE TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY. DILLON

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Litigation History:
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